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PREVENTIVE AGAINST MADNESS IN ELEPHANTS. BY CARL FREIHERR VON HUGEL.

The announcement in the Berlin papers of the tragical end of M. Tourniaire's Elephant*, certainly renders it desirable to know some means of preventing similar misfortunes, which have already occurred so frequently in Europe. The state of the Elephant which drives it to madness is termed by the Indians *Mosti*, literally, intoxicated by sexual stimulus or by spirituous liquors, and as soon as the keeper of the Elephants observes the symptoms of the *mosti* coming on, he has a never-failing means of restoring the animal confided to his care immediately to his senses. He places before it a vessel with three seers (a seer is somewhat more than a pound) of fluid butter, called *Ghie*, which the Elephant swallows and again becomes sober. When on great festivals Elephants are intoxicated with brandy for the purpose of fighting them, they are rendered sober as soon as desired by the same means. *Ghie* has moreover the same effect on Dromedaries and Camels when they are *mosti*. A portion of *Ghie* poured down their throats soon restores them to their usual state.—*Wiegmann's Archiv*.

ARE THE *CLOSTERIÆ* ANIMALS OR PLANTS?

Ehrenberg enumerates the following reasons for considering the *Closteriæ* as belonging to the Animal Kingdom. They enjoy voluntary motion, they have apertures at their extremities, they have

* Poisoned with hydrocyanic acid. Our readers will also remember the fate of Mr. Cross's Elephant, which it became necessary to shoot from the same cause.

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